

## **Con/ops for Regional Evacuation Shelter:**

**Intro:** **Regional Evacuation Shelters** are opened to the public to accommodate horses that are traveling with people forced to evacuate due to disasters. In the case of events like hurricanes, evacuation shelters will open before the storm makes landfall. If due to a sudden event (hazmat or wildfire etc) then the shelter may be opened as the event unfolds.

### **Sites identified for Regional Shelters:**

- 1) Bob Martin Agricultural Center (Martin Community College Equine Program)**
- 2) Sampson County Livestock Arena**
- 3) Wayne County Livestock Arena**
- 4) Richmond County Mill stone 4-H Horse Camp**

### **Shelter Activation:**

NC's CRES plan initiates evacuation plans up to 96 hours before landfall. Once evacuation orders are issued, human shelters will open and counties may begin receiving evacuees and some may come with horses. Regional Shelters will be opened when county resources have been overwhelmed and it is evident that more capacity is needed to shelter evacuated horses. Shelter Coordinators will be asked to open shelter by NCDA &CS upon request of counties needing additional sheltering capacity for horses. County requests to open Regional Shelters should be sent to State EOC by way of County EOC (County Emergency Management). Horse Shelters will likely follow the lead of Human Shelters and close when they do. Owners may have to find other accommodations for horses (NCDA & CS Marketing Division Website Equine Directory). Regional Shelters may morph into Rescue Shelters if their county shelter resources are overwhelmed.

### **Shelter Management:**

**Shelter Coordinators** identify volunteers or the need to request volunteers for shelter staffing needs. The following Staffing should be considered to cover needs over two 12 hour shifts:

- **Shelter Coordinator (2)**

- **Barn Staff:** (2 to 4 per 10 horses)\*\*It is assumed that people will care for their own horses. If not, then Barn Staff may need to be increased.
- **Veterinary Support:** On call support for health issues at owner's expense.
- **Security:** As needed

#### **Duties:**

- **Shelter Coordinators** will oversight staffing (including requests for staffing to County EOC), horse registration and enforcement of sheltering rules.
- **Barn Staff** will observe care of horses

#### **Feed and supplies:**

**Local retailers for** Feed and other supplies need to be contacted and notified that they may be asked to supply the owners of horses sheltering feed and other tack necessary to house horses for the duration of an incident. The retailer would charge fair price and owners of horses would be responsible for arranging for and paying for purchase of needs.

#### **Fees for Sheltering:**

Survey of usual fees for boarding horses at facilities currently averages \$ 10 per horse. Because there is no funding available to support horse sheltering in the Stafford Act, shelters may need to charge for use of the facility. It is suggested that all facilities adopt the same pricing fee if fees are charged.

#### **Registration process:**

1. Owners will register horses with the Shelter Coordinator or designated person using forms in Appendix 1. See EIA Requirements below if horses do not have current EIA (Coogins) test documentation upon arrival.
2. Owners will agree to care for horses while they are being sheltered and also check in daily with Shelter Coordinator.
3. Owners will remove horses within 12 hours of notification that shelter is closing.

4. Horses left in shelter will be considered abandoned and owners will be charged a \$10 per day fee until disposition of animal is decided or owner picks animal up.
5. Shelter Operation Forms are in the Equine Sheltering Plan.

## **Con/ops for Regional Rescue Shelter:**

**Intro: Regional Rescue Shelters** will be opened to accommodate horses that are found at large during an event. ( In the case of events like hurricanes, rescue shelters will open after the storm makes landfall.)

### **Potential Sites identified for Regional Shelters:**

- 1) **Bob Martin Agricultural Center (Martin Community College Equine Program)**
- 2) **Sampson County Livestock Arena**
- 3) **Wayne County Fair Grounds**
- 4) **Richmond County Millstone 4-H Horse Camp**

### **Shelter Activation:**

Regional Rescue shelters will open when requested by Counties when their resources have been depleted. County requests to open Regional Shelters should be sent to State EOC by way of County EOC (County Emergency Management).

### **Shelter Management:**

**Shelter Coordinators** identify volunteers or the need to request volunteers for shelter staffing needs. The following Staffing should be considered to cover needs over two 12 hour shifts:

- **Shelter Coordinator** (2)
- **Barn Staff:** (2 to 4 per 10 horses)
- **Veterinary Support:** On call support at Shelter's expense.
- **Security:** As needed

### **Duties:**

- **Shelter Coordinators** will oversight staffing (including requests for staffing to County EOC), horse registration and enforcement of sheltering rules.
- **Barn Staff** will observe, feed, and care for horses

#### **Feed and supplies:**

- **Local retailers for** Feed and other supplies need to be contacted and notified that the facility in their area has been designated a Rescue Shelter. Shelter Coordinators may ask if retailers would support feed and resource needs for the duration of a event. State Ag EOC would seek reimbursement for expenses related to housing rescue horses but it is not known if reimbursement is available.

#### **Fees for Sheltering:**

Once owners of horses are identified, owners will be charged if identified sheltering fee of \$10 per day (????) for each day horse was sheltered. It is suggested that all facilities adopt the same pricing fee if fees are charged, if owner is identified.

#### **EIA (Equine Infectious Anemia) / Coggins Test Status all public shelters**

1) It is strongly recommended that owners bring EIA test charts to shelters. In no way should a lack of a current Coggins test chart inhibit an owner's desire to seek shelter at one of the approved sites.

2) For horses arriving from another state, the CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection usually required for interstate shipment) requirement will be waived, as well as the Coggins requirement until it reaches the NC shelter.

3) Horses that arrive without current EIA-negative test charts will have blood drawn for EIA (Elisa or AGID, dependent on circumstances- lab decision).

4) Local practitioners will be contacted as "first choice" to draw blood for EIA test. Hopefully they will provide the service "gratis" or at a reduced fee.

--NCDA&CS, Vet Division (& EP) VMO's or designated personnel will draw blood if local practitioners are not available, and transport to Rollins.

--EIA test to be run at Rollins at the normal \$6 per sample rate.

5) Horses that leave the shelter prior to results becoming available will be home-quarantined until negative results are received. Vet Division VMO's will oversee any quarantining and release responsibilities or out of state notification.

**6) Shelter must keep a log of “time entering” and “time departing” shelter (in case of EIA positive to determine exposed animals).**

7) Owners will sign a waiver at time of entry acknowledging the potential risk of EIA exposure & agreeing to “home quarantine” if arrive & leave without a negative EIA test.

**Registration and Sheltering process:**

- 1) Shelter Coordinator will register horses using forms in Appendix 1.
- 2) Shelter Coordinator will maintain a list and description of horses with Pictures if possible to allow horses to be posted for recovery by owners. State Ag EOC will facilitate publicizing horses that need to be advertised for recovery, fostering, adoption.
- 3) Unclaimed Horses will become available for fostering or adoption after 14 days or as specified by the State Veterinarian/Commissioner. Adoption and transfer of unclaimed horses will be at the discretion of NCDA&CS and its' agents.
- 4) If resources are available, Horses may be tested for EIA, vaccinated for rabies, tetanus, EEE/Influenza etc. Resources include Vets (Animal Health Programs/EP), vaccines, tests etc.